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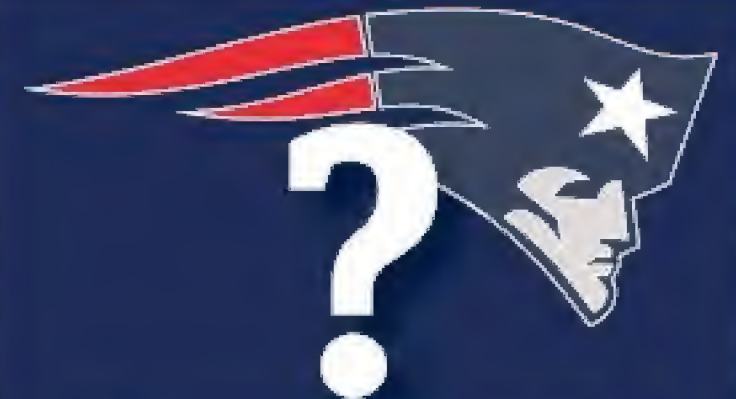
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## 'FREE MEEK'

Philly rapper gets the true-crime treatment on Amazon. 8

Foreign Correspondents Club opens downtown (no press pass needed). 11

# NEW QUESTIONS

Conjecture and conspiracy abound after disgraced financier Jeffrey Epstein was found dead by apparent suicide Saturday while in federal custody in Manhattan, one day after documents were unsealed detailing an alleged inner circle and weeks after a first alleged suicide attempt, prompting an FBI investigation into the how and why of his detention's failure. 2,4

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# Epstein found dead in jail cell in apparent suicide, was not on watch

Procedure requiring inmate checks every 30 minutes was not followed, a source said.

Disgraced financier Jeffrey Epstein was found dead on Saturday after an apparent suicide in the New York jail cell where he was being held without bail on sex-trafficking charges, and a source said he was not on suicide watch at the time of his death.

Epstein, 66, was found unresponsive in his cell in the Special Housing Unit of the Metropolitan Correctional Center (MCC) and taken to a hospital where he was pronounced dead, the Federal Bureau of Prisons, which operates the Lower Manhattan jail, said in a statement. It declined to comment further.

Epstein, a well-connected money manager dogged for years by allegations that he sexually abused girls and young women, was found hanging by his neck, according to the source, who was not authorized to speak on the record.

The financier, who once counted Republican President Donald Trump



REUTERS

## "Mr. Epstein's death raises serious questions that must be answered."

U.S. Attorney General William Barr

and Democratic former President Bill Clinton as friends, was arrested on July 6 and pleaded not guilty to charges of sex trafficking involving dozens of underage girls as young as 14, from at least 2002 to 2005.

The FBI and the Department of Justice's Inspector

General were opening investigations into his death, U.S. Attorney General William Barr said, adding that he was "appalled" to learn of the apparent suicide in federal custody.

Last month, Epstein was found unconscious on the floor of his jail cell with marks on his neck, and of-

ficials were investigating that incident as a possible suicide or assault.

"Mr. Epstein's death raises serious questions that must be answered," Barr said in a statement.

Even though Epstein was found unconscious last month, he had recently been taken off suicide watch, a special set of procedures for inmates in danger of taking their own life, according to the source. The financier was in a cell by himself when his body was found.

It was not immediately clear why Epstein was tak-

en off suicide watch.

At the MCC, two jail guards are required to make separate checks on all prisoners every 30 minutes, but that procedure was not followed overnight, according to the source. In addition, every 15 minutes guards are required to make another check on prisoners who are on suicide watch.

Guards generally remove any prisoner placed on suicide watch from the Special Housing Unit where Epstein was housed, according to a Twitter post by Preet Bharara, a former Manhattan-based U.S. Attorney. The unit separates inmates such as accused sex offenders from the general population for their protection.

Aja Davis, a spokeswoman for the New York City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, said she could not say how Epstein died before her office examined the body.

### INVESTIGATION TO CONTINUE

Epstein was arrested on July 6 at a New Jersey airport after taking a private plane from Paris. Last month, a judge refused Epstein's request to release him on bail and allow

him to live under 24-hour guard in his opulent townhouse on Manhattan's Upper East Side. The financier was appealing that ruling.

Prosecutors said a search of his townhouse, conducted under a warrant, uncovered evidence of perhaps thousands of nude photographs of "what appeared to be underage girls," including some photos cataloged on compact discs and kept in a locked safe.

In a court filing on July 25, the government said it was pursuing an "ongoing investigation of uncharged individuals" in connection with the case.

That investigation, by the U.S. Attorney's Office in Manhattan, will continue despite Epstein's death, a different source familiar with the matter said.

"Today's events are disturbing, and we are deeply aware of their potential to present yet another hurdle to giving Epstein's many victims their day in court," Geoffrey Berman, the U.S. Attorney in Manhattan, said in a statement. "Our investigation of the conduct charged in the indictment — which included a conspiracy count — remains ongoing." REUTERS

## Feds delay first-of-its-kind wind farm off Vineyard

**2** Vineyard Wind, the \$2.8 billion, 800-megawatt offshore wind project planned for the waters off Martha's Vineyard, has been delayed and will not move forward on the timeline it has been anticipating due to a federal agency's decision to undertake a broad study of the potential impacts of offshore wind projects planned for the East Coast. The decision of the U.S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Manage-

ment (BOEM) to launch a "cumulative impacts analysis" and hold up the approval of a key permit for Vineyard Wind until that analysis is complete will likely upend the supply chain, financing and construction timeline for the project chosen by the Baker administration and state utility companies to fulfill part of a 2016 clean energy law. Despite the disruption, Vineyard Wind officials are adamant that the development remains workable. STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE

## Tesla electric car catches fire after collision in Moscow

**3** A Tesla Model 3 electric car caught fire after crashing into a parked tow truck on a Moscow motorway late on Saturday, with the Tesla driver saying he had failed to see the vehicle with which he collided. Asked in a video published on REN TV website if he was using an Auto-pilot self-driving system, driver Alexei Tretyakov said he was in a drive-assistance mode in which he was still holding the steering wheel. Tesla Inc.

has stood by safety claims for its Model 3 in the face of regulatory scrutiny, while documents showed the top U.S. automotive safety watchdog issued at least five subpoenas since last year seeking information about crashes involving the company's vehicles. Tretyakov said he was driving at around 62 mph — the speed limit — when the car crashed. The metal frame of the vehicle was all that remained after the fire, TV footage showed. REUTERS

## WHO: No new Ebola cases in Congo hub; 1,300 vaccinated

**4** The World Health Organization said it has vaccinated over 1,300 people who potentially came into contact with the Ebola virus in the Congolese city of Goma, helping contain what many feared would be a rapid spread in an urban center. A yearlong Ebola outbreak in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo has killed at least 1,800, the second-biggest toll ever, and efforts to contain the virus have been hobbled by militia

violence and some local resistance. "Ongoing vaccination activities have reached the majority (98%) of eligible contacts, and 1,314 contacts ... have been vaccinated to date," the WHO said in a statement last week. No new confirmed cases had been reported in Goma since the WHO's previous report on Aug. 2. The experimental Ebola vaccine, developed by Merck, has proven to be a key weapon against the hemorrhagic fever. REUTERS





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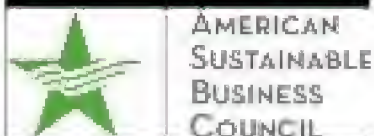
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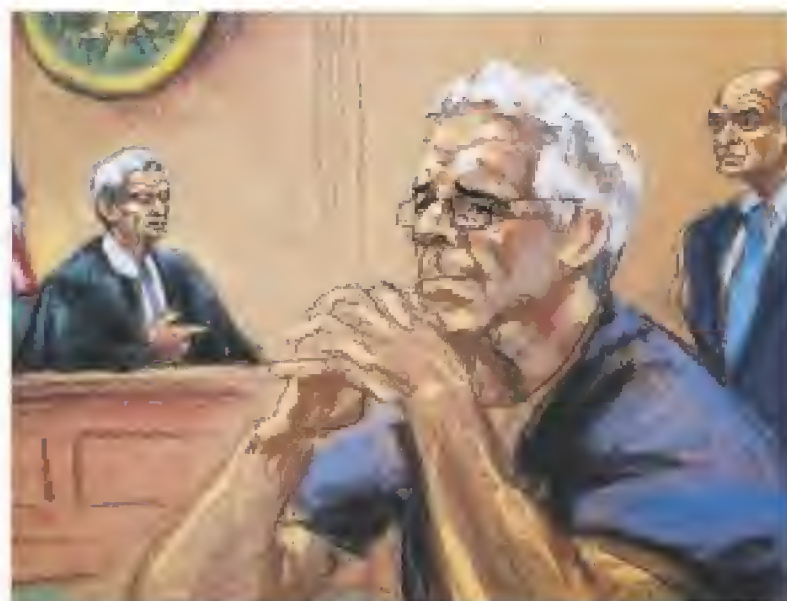
## Lawyers say Epstein victims to sue his estate

The Child Victims Act, which takes effect Aug. 14 in New York, may unleash an "avalanche" of civil suits.

Lawyers for several women who say they were sexually abused by disgraced financier Jeffrey Epstein plan to file lawsuits this week against his estate following his apparent suicide in a New York jail cell.

Los Angeles attorney Lisa Bloom, who represents two women, told Reuters "we intend to promptly file those civil claims" having held off suing while federal prosecutors pursued sex trafficking charges against Epstein.

New York lawyer Roberta Kaplan said she hopes to file on Wednesday on behalf of a client to



REUTERS

take advantage of a new New York state law which makes it possible to pursue decades-old claims of abuse.

The "Child Victims Act," which takes effect on Aug. 14, gives people a year to sue over allegations of sexual abuse, regardless of when the alleged acts occurred.

Kaplan will sue on behalf of a woman described

in the indictment against Epstein as a minor victim. The unidentified woman was recruited to engage in sex acts with Epstein around 2002 and paid hundreds of dollars for each encounter with the financier, according to the indictment.

She was 14 when it happened, Kaplan said.

The financier, who once counted Repub-

lican President Trump and Democratic former President Bill Clinton as friends, was arrested on July 6 and pleaded not guilty to charges of sex trafficking involving dozens of underage girls as young as 14, from at least 2002 to 2005.

More than a decade ago, Epstein pleaded guilty in Florida to state charges of solicitation of prostitution from a minor in a deal with prosecutors that has been widely criticized as too lenient.

Epstein's death is likely to "unleash an avalanche of civil suits against his estate," said New York attorney Paul Callan, who is not involved with the case.

Epstein, 66, was found unresponsive Saturday morning in his cell at the Metropolitan Correctional Center in Manhattan, according to the Federal Bureau of Prisons, which operates the jail. **REUTERS**

## 2020 Dem contenders slam Trump for Epstein conspiracy theories

Democratic presidential contenders Beto O'Rourke and Sen. Cory Booker slammed U.S. President Donald Trump on Sunday for promoting unfounded conspiracy theories about the apparent suicide of disgraced financier Jeffrey Epstein in his New York jail cell.

After the death on Saturday of Epstein, a millionaire charged with sex trafficking who once counted Trump and former President Bill Clinton as friends, Trump retweeted a baseless claim from a conservative comedian that the Clintons were involved in the death.

"This is another example of our president using this position of public trust to attack his political enemies with unfounded conspiracy theories," O'Rourke, a former



REUTERS

congressman from Texas, said on CNN's "State of the Union."

O'Rourke said Trump was trying to shift the public's focus away from last weekend's two mass shootings in El Paso and Dayton.

"He's changing the conversation. If we allow him to do that we will never be able to focus on the true problems."

Booker, a U.S. senator from New Jersey, said Trump's retweet was "just more recklessness." **REUTERS**

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GETTY IMAGES

Biden's latest gaffe might be elocution.

MICHAEL MARTIN  
letters@metro.us

Donald Trump is not the most unintelligible candidate in the 2020 presidential race.

That honor belongs to Joe Biden. This is what artificial intelligence has determined via Trint, an app that uses AI to automatically transcribe audio and video. The company fed a speech sample from the top 11 Democratic candidates — their closing statements from the first primary

debate last June — along with a snippet from Trump.

The candidates with the highest percentage of transcription accuracy are theoretically the most understandable — at least to robots.

Despite their diametrically opposed accents, Sens. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) and Bernie Sanders (D-VT, but still clinging to his Brooklyn honk) came in tops, with 100 percent accuracy. Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ) and California businessman Andrew Yang were close behind with 99.5 percent and 99.24 percent, respectively. Sens. Elizabeth Warren

and Kamala Harris, and Pete Buttigieg, Marianne Williamson and Julian Castro were all in the 98th percentile.

Coming in last: Trump, with 97.37 percent accuracy, crowdpleaser Beto O'Rourke (95.83 percent) and Biden, the famed "retail politician" with the common touch (95.33 percent).

"All of these people speak well," says Trint CEO Jeffrey Kofman. "It's just that certain speech behavior that will determine how AI can recognize what you're saying. If you swallow some words, AI is not going to put those words in. If

# Who is the murkiest speaker in the 2020 race? AI has the answer

what you've said is a little garbled, the outcome will reflect that."

Why might Bernie Sanders, who speaks with a thicker version of the old-school New Yorkese sometimes favored by Trump, beat the president to a perfect score? "He speaks really loudly, and he tends to enunciate quite well," says Kofman, who founded Trint after 30 years as a journalist with ABC, CBS and the CBC. "AI likes that. It's the people who eat their words, who tend to let them trail off, that tend to be more challenged."

What other lessons do

the results hold for public speakers of any stripe? "It's kind of like a grade-school elocution class, what a teacher might have said a generation or two ago," says Kofman. "Speak slowly and enunciate. Come to a full stop. All those things were true in the '50s and '60s, and AI is kind of bringing them back."

The algorithm used to analyze the speech samples is known as WER, or word error rate; as anyone with a smartphone or Google Home knows, speech-recognition technology is moving fast. Trint will soon offer live transcription and instant

multilingual translation, geared toward the instant dissemination of information the media ecosystem requires. Whether it helps with our political digestion remains to be seen. Theoretically, voters could use AI apps to create instant personal transcripts of debates or speeches for their review and reflection. "This is our brave new world of technology," says Kofman. "I think it is really an interesting exercise to kind of stand back and say, you know, technology has no political bias. In its purest form, what can it say about how people communicate?"

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## LIFESTYLE

# The new Amazon documentary *'Free Meek'* puts our judicial system on trial



PROVIDED

We spoke with investigator Tyler Maroney about the injustices that have followed the Philly rapper for over a decade.



PAT KING  
patrick.king@metro.us

Philly rapper Meek Mill never thought that a possession-of-firearms conviction when he was 18 years old would lead to a life of constant surveillance and borderline harassment from the American judicial system. But that has been his life for the past 14 years, as an overly harsh judge used dubious technicalities as parole violations that have sent him in and out of prison. In "Free Meek," the new five-part documentary series on Amazon Prime, Tyler Maroney and Luke Brindle-Khym of the investigative firm QRI, the same firm that produced the documentary "The Case Against Adnan Syed," took a deep dive into Meek's

case up until his release from prison in 2018. We spoke with Maroney about working with Meek and the deep-rooted issues that need to be solved in our criminal justice system.

**What initially drew your investigative firm to this project?**

We got the assignment from Roc Nation because they had an artist, Meek Mill, who had been arrested and literally thrown in prison for a probation violation. Roc Nation and all of Meek's friends and family and advocates were completely shocked at the severity of that punishment for such a minor probation violation that they decided that they wanted to amass as many resources as they could to help them. One of those resources was us. We were brought to the table because our private investigations firm specializes in investigative work that supports the criminal-defense mentality. So we see ourselves in many ways as contrarians to the

official record. We've worked with organizations that fight wrongful convictions like the Innocence Project. And we've worked with civil-rights firms and other nonprofits that are set up to right the wrongs of the criminal justice system. In many ways, our mindset jives well with this assignment. It was a challenging, fascinating and ultimately successful case.

**Do you feel as though investigative true-crime documentaries in the streaming era are now useful tools to help energize the public to demand justice in instances of wrongful convictions? Do you see them as a new form of checks and balances on the justice system?**

I love that question because in many ways, yes. On one end of the spectrum there is a lot of "true-crime smut," and on the other end there are films like "Free Meek" and other films — "The Jinx," for example. It's not necessarily shining a light on the criminal

justice system, but they are revealing information that the media has not otherwise had the resources or the motive to reveal. With respect to documentaries that are as well-produced and tell the narrative in a way that is compelling that "Free Meek" does, it allows us to counter the official record that may not be accurate from the outside. People talk about wanting to make a change in society, they often think about writing to your congressperson or voting for new elected officials. Which is, of course, a valuable tool. But if that doesn't work in the current environment where we're at, where we have a president and we have elected officials who are rolling back criminal justice reform, it's investigations like ours, legal minds like Meek's lawyers and documentaries like "Free Meek" that are able to, we hope, open people's eyes and inspire the electorate to think long and hard about what they can do to right the kind of wrongs that Meek had

to suffer through.

**Do you think Meek's case was affected negatively or positively given his profile as a rapper?**

It's hard to imagine that this would have a negative impact because not only is Meek's story compelling, but he's somebody who fought through perceived wrongs and had his case overturned. So, he prevailed in the criminal justice system. Then, quite literally, he put his money where his mouth [was] and helped to form a nonprofit called The From Alliance with many others contributing, because he has many other wealthy friends who believe in this cause. Not only did his symbolic case get attention but he's helping contribute resources that are going to be used to start fighting the kind of injustices he himself suffered through, because he recognizes that this system disproportionately affects many Americans, mostly who are black.

**What is something that you hope people**

**walk away understanding about the broken aspects of the prison and parole system that Meek had to go through?**

I think one of the big takeaways is that Meek's system — and Meek is unique because he is rich and famous by his own admission, but he's not unique in that he was and is a young African-American man who feels like he is under the surveillance of a police state. He is and was living under conditions that were intolerable and that our society does very little to be sympathetic to. He was lucky enough to have the talent and the drive to get himself out of that. But many, if not most, of those who went through exactly what Meek went through are still in prison, or are dead, or are on probation now. I suppose the hope is that this investigation which lead to Meek's freedom, which lead to this kind of media, which leads to film on Amazon, will inspire others to keep that hope up.

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# If you can't stand the heat...

Chefs Bobby Flay and Michael Symon give us the scoop on their new barbecue competition show on Food Network.



MOLLY GIVEN  
Molly.Given@metro.us

This summer just got a lot saucier. Food Network's latest show featuring culinary icon Bobby Flay (BF) and Iron Chef Michael Symon (MS) recently premiered on the food-focused network, and the competition is just starting to heat up. "BBQ Brawl: Flay vs. Symon" features four episodes of intense rounds where competitors will smoke, sauce, grill and dry rub their way to the top while being mentored by the biggest barbecue connoisseurs themselves. Both Flay and Symon sat down with Metro to give the



Bobby Flay ROBERT GOMEZ/FOOD NETWORK

scoop on their new show, talk about competing against each other for the first time and share some surprises audiences should look out for.

**Why choose BBQ for the show— what makes this style of cooking exciting for the competition?**  
MS: I think a couple of things — barbecue

is huge to Bobby and I both, and I don't think there is anything more Americana-style than barbecue. It's really grown nation-wide now, it used to be very regionally specific, and now you're seeing great barbecue restaurants open all over the country. The level of interest for barbecue right now is just very high. Even though it fits into one category there are a lot of different styles of it.

**How did you go about finding the "pit-masters" that are competing on the show?**

BF: My company actually produced the show, so we certainly scoured the country for the best barbecue experts around and we pooled from a pool of very decorated

barbecue competitors.

**What kind of challenges can viewers expect to see the pit-masters undergo during the competition?**

BF: It's all outdoor cooking in some way, shape or form— but they range from very quick sort of backyard grilling challenges to challenges that took up to eight hours to cook a piece of meat— and everything in between. That included side dishes, sauces, or things on the grill or the smoker—it was basically everything you could do outdoors.

MS: It was fun because it ranged from backyard barbecue to really old traditional kind of barbecue techniques.

**What's some of the**

**criteria the competitors will be judged on?**

BF: I think presentation at any level is important no matter what, but that doesn't mean it can't be something simply plated. I think the thing about barbecue is it's really about the presentation of the techniques of the food— things along those lines that really make your mouth water when it's put in front of you.

**Why did you choose Austin for the show's location?**

BF: I think that Austin, well actually Texas in general — it is considered one of the best barbecue states in the whole country. Food Network has a very big Texas following and it just felt right. The minute you cross the Texas border you can just smell the barbecue everywhere.

**Overall what would you tell audiences to expect from "BBQ Brawl: Flay vs. Symon"?**  
MS: The show offers a wide variety of things. You get to see world-class barbecue, and you also get to see two best friends having a great time while being competitive.

BF: And amazing technique— some of the best people in the business. Not us, the competitors. But, there are some smaller challenges in the episodes that will include me and Michael as well.

Catch "BBQ Brawl: Flay vs. Symon" Thursdays at 9 p.m. on Food Network

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# The Foreign Correspondents Club brings International Flavors to Downtown Crossing

KIM WINDYKA  
letters@metro.us

If you can't get away on that exotic vacation you've been daydreaming about this summer, you can experience the next best thing in Downtown Crossing — and you don't even have to pack a suitcase. Inspired by global flavors, the Foreign Correspondents Club opened underneath The Merchant Kitchen & Drinks on Friday. It features a rotating cocktail menu dreamed up by bar manager Bryan Ames, and there's also a variety of international small plates created by chef Ignacio Lopez, head chef at the restaurant.

Among the inventive drink options are the Kon-bini Cocktail (green tea shochu, lemon, white miso, Japanese Knotweed honey and matcha powder) and the Treaty of Manila (Don Papa rum, tamarind liqueur, coconut water, curry powder and egg white).

"The cocktail menu will offer some very unique experiences," said Ames via press release. "We'll be working with traditional spirits like rucilla, raki, shochu and



ALL PHOTOS PROVIDED



pisco, as well as regional ingredients, to give these drinks a true sense of terroir. The purpose of the FCC is to provide drinks and food that are transportive, and a space that encourages interaction, discussion and hopefully an adventure or two." The space's aesthetic matches the bar's worldly vibe, boasting a vintage feel with old furniture, muted paint colors, and some souvenirs, trinkets and treasures. To access the FCC, guests check in with

the host at The Merchant, who gives them a postcard that grants access to the space in true speak-easy fashion.

The FCC will be open

from 5 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday, of this week before settling into regular hours of 5 p.m. to 11 p.m., Tuesdays through Saturdays. It will initially

operate as a pop-up concept through Sept. 21, when it will close until some point in 2020.

Make reservations at

[www.themerchantboston.com/foreign-correspondents-club](http://www.themerchantboston.com/foreign-correspondents-club) and follow the Foreign Correspondents Club on Instagram at @fcdtx.

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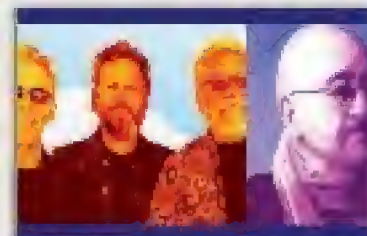
SCARY MOMMY  
AUG 16

MATT BELLISSAI  
AUG 24  
REGGIE WATTS  
AUG 25  
LESLIE JONES  
AUG 31



JANIS IAN &  
LIVINGSTON TAYLOR  
AUG 17

LIL DUVAL  
SEPT 6  
CHRISTINA P  
SEPT 7  
DOUGHBOYS  
PODCAST LIVE  
SEPT 7 & 8



HOT TUNA  
AUG 21

ANJELAH JOHNSON  
SEPT 12  
JEN KIRKMAN  
SEPT 13  
NOT ANOTHER D+D  
PODCAST  
SEPT 13



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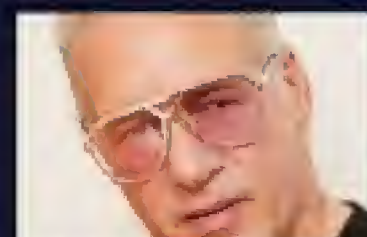
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BANG!  
AUG 21

KEVIN JAMES  
SEPT 21  
MJ LIVE  
SEPT 22  
WYNONNA  
SEPT 28



JETHRO TULL  
SEPT 11

SCRIBBLE  
SHOWDOWN  
OCT 1  
RACHEL BLOOM  
OCT 12



ANDREW DICE  
CLAY  
SEPT 13

RICHARD MARX AND  
RICK SPRINGFIELD  
OCT 20  
NEIL DEGRASSE  
TYSON  
OCT 21



GIPSY KINGS  
SEPT 17

NICK OFFERMAN  
OCT 23-24  
GEORGE LOPEZ  
OCT 25  
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## SPORTS

## Question marks aplenty

A lot of matters are still up in the air for the Patriots this coming season.



MAIT BURKE  
matt.burke@metro.us

The Patriots are the defending Super Bowl champs and the favorites to win it all again this season. Nonetheless, there are a ton of question marks surrounding this team as we inch closer to the regular-season opener against the Steelers in 27 days. Here are a few players that are currently in the mix to contribute and a couple that aren't here now but could be key late in the fall.

#### Braxton Berrios

Despite being a sixth-round pick and having spent last season on the injured reserve list, many are penciling Berrios as the next Wes Welker or Julian Edelman (an undersized slot receiver whom the rest of the NFL once dismissed).

Berrios had a strong performance last Thursday night against the Lions as he hauled in three catches for 45 yards, but he was outshined by

undrafted rookie free agent Jakobi Meyers, who caught six passes for 69 yards and a pair of touchdowns.

The wide receiver position is a large concern for the Patriots, but Berrios will still have to scratch and claw just to make the team this year. Meyers, Demaryius Thomas, Phillip Dorsett, Maurice Harris, Ryan Davis, Dontrelle Inman, Gunner Olszewski and Damoun Patterson are all options to make the 53-man roster for Bill Belichick.

#### Gronk

Until Gronk appears on WWE television or signs a movie deal, there will be great speculation that No. 87 is going to come back to the Patriots at some point this season.

He played catch with Brady last month; his agent Drew Rosenhaus has said multiple times that he wouldn't be shocked if Gronkowski returns to football this year; and his pro-wrestling buddy Mojo Rawley told CBS Baltimore last week that Gronk is currently "doing nothing" and "staying off of television to heal up."

The Patriots have a history of bringing back or bringing in veterans in November or December as we've seen it over the years with the late Junior Seau, James Harrison and Michael Floyd.



Josh Gordon and Tom Brady had a strong rapport for much of last season.

GETTY IMAGES

#### Tom Brady

Not sure you've heard, but Brady is now 42 years old.

We all know Brady is Superman, but at some point he is going to break down. Like, for realz. If Brady's play starts to noticeably slip this season, that, combined with his strange contract situation that played out last week, could turn ugly. Two years ago, internal drama seemed to have cost the Patriots a Super Bowl ring as they narrowly fell to the Eagles. That bubble burst

on game day in February 2018 with all of the Malcolm Butler stuff.

Yeah, the Pats were just a play away from winning that game, but even the biggest Patriots honk would have to admit that some of that locker room uneasiness played a factor in the biggest game of that season.

#### Josh Gordon

Gordon recently applied to be reinstated by the league and he's got a decent shot to get the OK from old buddy

Roger Goodell. The NFL has eased its stance on players using marijuana and the green stuff has most always been what Gordon has gotten in trouble for.

Gordon signed a free-agent tender with the Patriots in April, and he could be right back in the mix at some point this fall if he gets the green light from the powers that be in the league office.

#### Demaryius Thomas

Thomas is still recovering from a torn Achilles

from last December, and it's likely that he starts the season on the Pats' reserve/PUP list. There were hints last year that Thomas still has big games left in his tank as he had a 105-yard receiving day against the Jets in October and a two-touchdown performance against the Titans in late November.

Perhaps we could see Thomas, Gronk and Gordon all come back late in the year, which would give the Pats an entirely different look on offense.

## MLB betting: Red Sox must take care of business in Cleveland

Time continues to run out for the Red Sox in their quest to rally for a wild-card berth in the American League playoffs.

But, a huge opportunity presents itself Monday through Wednesday when the Sox visit the Indians. The Indians are coming off a four-game "playoff intensity" tug-of-war with the Twins in their battle for the A.L. Central. If the hosts are weary, Boston could pick up two or three wins.

Frankly, given the difference in games above the .500 mark, catching Cleveland from be-

hind for a wild-card slot would be virtually impossible without a Red Sox series victory.

As we've discussed in recent weeks, Cleveland has a lot more games remaining than Boston against the "sick six" of Baltimore, Toronto, Detroit, Kansas City, the Chicago White Sox and Seattle — five teams who have been bad all season, and the Windy City entry who's been poor since the All-Star break.

Let's refresh those numbers for wild-card contenders...Minnesota 26, Tampa Bay 20, Cleveland 16, Oakland 14,

Boston 9.

We should note that those are "full" games remaining. Boston has a 10th "result" still pending because last week's home game against Kansas City was suspended while tied in extra innings. It will be completed Aug. 22.

If the Sox fall further back of Cleveland by losing at least two of three this week, how are they going to rally against the toughest remaining schedule?

Minnesota seems assured of at least a wild card even if it loses the division to Cleveland. Tampa Bay controls its

own destiny more than the Sox and A's do.

Betting markets continue to react on the fly to important results. Let's update composite global odds to win the American League.

Houston 11/10 (+110), New York Yankees 9/4 (+225), Cleveland 8/1 (+800), Minnesota 8/1 (+800), Tampa Bay 12/1 (+1200), Oakland 16/1 (+1600), Boston 25/1 (+2500).

A \$100 long-shot bet on Boston would earn \$2,500. Houston's clear edge in starting-pitching quality and depth has pushed it ahead of New York as A.L. favorite. If



Rafael Devers and Mookie Betts.

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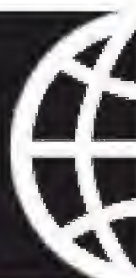
you're wondering about "sick six" data for those two, Houston has 19 games remaining; the Yanks, just 16. JEFF FOGLE

Watch VSiN's sports betting show, "Follow the Money" with Mitch and Pauly weekdays on NESN at 10 a.m.



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[www.massgeneral.org/translationalpainresearch](http://www.massgeneral.org/translationalpainresearch)



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**617-724-6102**

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#### You may qualify if you are:

- Male or Female (18 years and older)
- Overweight (BMI between 27 and 34 kg/m<sup>2</sup>)
- Generally healthy (no diabetes)
- No heart, kidney or liver disease
- Not vegetarian or vegan
- Non-smoker, drinking less than 2 alcoholic drinks a day

#### And you are willing to:

- Provide saliva and blood samples, and have lab tests
- Come to the Center 2-3 times a week for meal pickups
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### Volunteers needed for study on effects of a Raspberry Supplement on metabolic control and cognition

#### You may qualify if you are:

- Male or female age 55-70 years
- Overweight (BMI 27-35 kg/m<sup>2</sup>)
- Not diabetic or taking diabetes medications
- Not vegetarian/vegan or have fruit allergies
- Non-smoker and consume < 2 alcoholic drinks a day

#### And you are willing and able to:

- Consume a breakfast meal supplemented with raspberry or a placebo meal on 2 study visits
- Provide blood samples on a screening visit and 2 study visits; and be at the center up to 11 hours on 2 study visits
- Undergo a medical exam and memory tests

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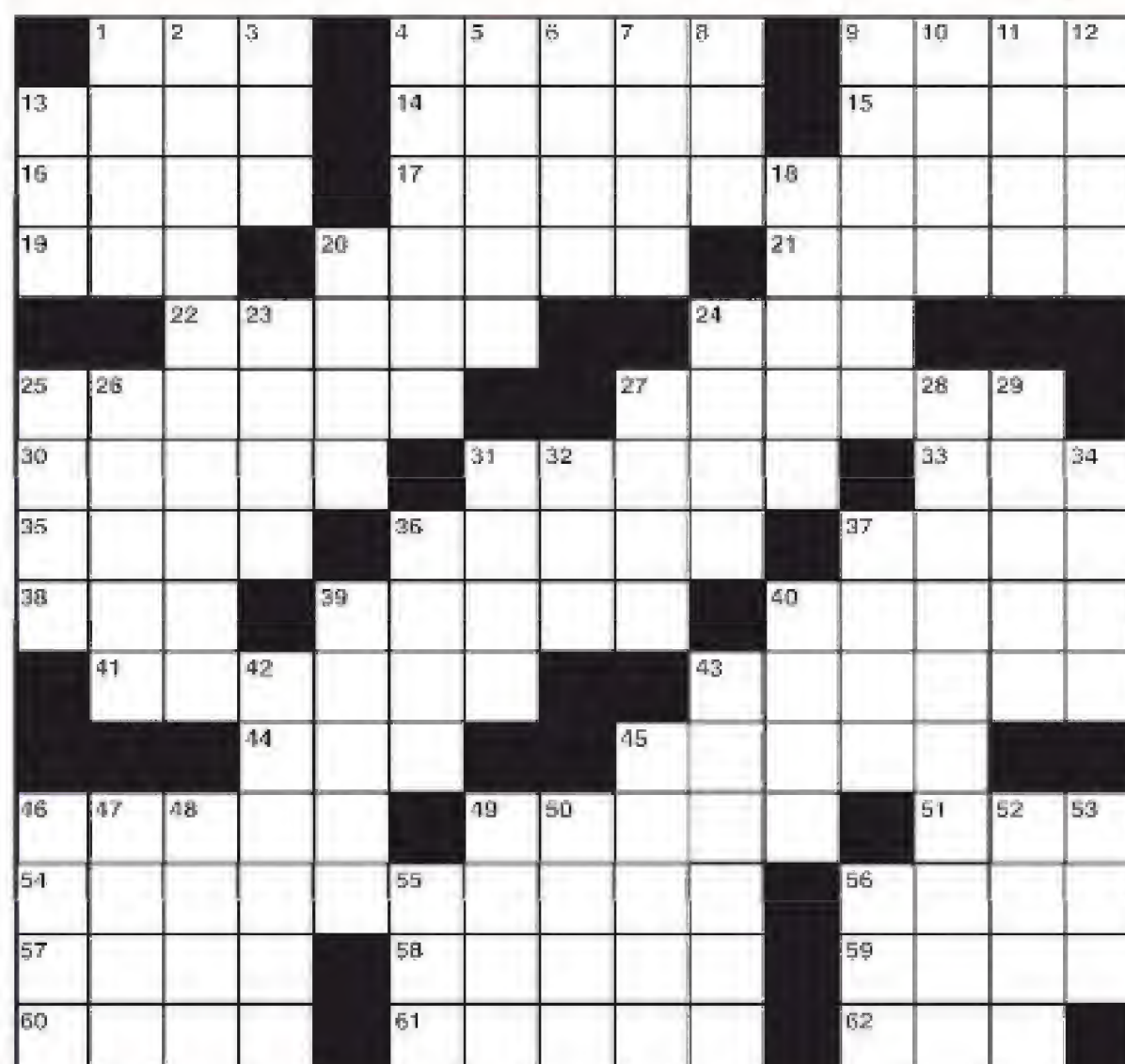
1 Lively dance  
4 College officials  
9 Sign of healing  
13 Ridiculously small  
14 Typo  
15 Rail rider  
16 Apple taster  
17 Made-up  
19 Last calendar pg.  
20 Hidden supply  
21 Takes a break  
22 Studies at the eleventh hour  
24 "\_\_\_ Girl Friday"; Cary Grant film  
25 Black-and-blue mark  
27 Thick juice  
30 Makes money  
31 Say something  
33 Period  
35 Male deer  
36 Hard to climb  
37 June 6, 1944  
38 Twitch  
39 \_\_\_ for; symbolize

40 Overuse the mirror  
41 \_\_\_ stew; creamy white soup  
43 Cool dessert  
44 Drag along behind  
45 Europe's longest river  
46 Christmas song  
49 Beach souvenir  
51 Forbid  
54 Legit  
56 Cruise along the runway  
57 Strauss' "The \_\_\_ Danube"  
58 Give one's views  
59 Mountain goat  
60 Matching pairs  
61 Tear to bits  
62 Dads

## DOWN

1 "Hey \_\_\_"; Beatles hit  
2 Mistake  
3 Campus building  
4 Vilify  
5 Clapton & Roberts  
6 Foremost  
7 Musical symbol  
8 \_\_\_ Lanka  
9 Most bashful  
10 Dove sounds  
11 Be against

12 Supervisor  
13 Digs  
18 Ruse  
20 The Mamas & the Papas member  
23 Piece of jewelry  
24 Pile  
25 Optimal  
26 Numerical comparison  
27 "\_\_\_ I say more?"  
28 Ethiopia's capital  
29 Roves  
31 "\_\_\_ Trek"  
32 Animal enclosure  
34 Sort; variety  
36 Goulash  
37 Narcotic  
39 Embezzled  
40 Voter survey  
42 Kitchen appliances  
43 Shaped  
45 Author Jules \_\_\_  
46 Hired vehicles  
47 Competent  
48 Disastrous defeat  
49 Tenth-grader, for short  
50 Head covering  
52 Wood-splitters  
53 Put the kibosh on  
55 NYY rival  
56 \_\_\_ over; topple

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7	1		8		6			
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**Aries** Keep your finger on the pulse. The more you know, the better you will understand what's going on around you. Refuse to let your emotions take the reins.



**Taurus** Strive to get things done. Put quality first and quantity second. If you learn from your mistakes, you'll come out on top. Keep your distance from inconsistent people.



**Gemini** Focus on personal relationships. Refuse to let an outsider cause a problem for you at home or with someone who has always been there for you in the past.



**Cancer** Do things your way. If you let your creative imagination take charge, you'll come up with ideas and solutions that will impress onlookers and boost your confidence and reputation.



**Leo** Expand your circle of friends if it will help you excel. Branching out will encourage you to use your skills in innovative ways. A personal change should be based on facts, not on hearsay.



**Virgo** Be prepared to act if someone makes an unexpected choice. Your actions should send a positive message. A steady pace forward is encouraged.



**Libra** Helping someone else will lead to personal gain. Look for an opportunity that will help you expand into new territory with your work, relationships or educational pursuits.



**Scorpio** Listen and learn. Patience and discipline will be your ticket to success. Don't fall for someone's grandiose plans that could leave you in a vulnerable position. Do your own thing.



**Sagittarius** One door closes, but another door opens. Follow your heart, embrace personal growth and take steps to implement a healthy, less stressful lifestyle. Romance is highlighted.



**Capricorn** Make a change if it will help keep the peace. Listen to complaints and share your feelings. Compromise will make a difference when dealing with domestic problems.



**Aquarius** Concentrate on what you are trying to achieve. If you explore new possibilities, you'll come up with a way to use your skills to bring in more cash. Romance is encouraged.



**Pisces** How you help others will reflect the type of person you are. The changes you bring about will make a difference and encourage others to do things for themselves. Practice moderation. EUGENA LAST

## Yesterday's Answers

F	L	Y		S	M	A	L	L		A	L	M	S
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